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TUESDAY, APRIL 14, 1953

THE JERUSALEM POST

PRICE: 80 PRUTA
VOL. XXIX, No. 7539

Marginal Column

By ALASTAIR BUCHAN

While the good news of a cooperative attitude on the part of the Chinese Communists towards a rapid exchange of prisoners of war was trickling over the wires from Tokyo, the New York stock market took its severest nose-dive since the great Allied defeats in Korea in November, 1950. To a Communist this would be conclusive proof of the classic Marxist dictum that the capitalist countries can grow rich and prosperous only by stimulating armaments and that they fear peace as other men fear death. To other observers it presents no such conclusive proof, but it is a sign of the enormous question mark which the change in Russian and Chinese tactics has created in the minds of both the American Administration and the American people. For as every day goes by, bringing with it some fresh indication of a change from the Stalin line whose inflexibility had done so much to simplify the issues of the cold war and to make them intelligible to the ordinary American citizen, it becomes apparent that there is almost no aspect of American foreign and strategic policy which will not have to be thought out afresh.

■

LEAVING aside many minor ramifications of a permanent change on the attitude of the Kremlin, it is possible to isolate some of the big questions which are now profoundly troubling thoughtful people in Washington. The first question concerns American policy on Europe and, in particular, Germany — a question that has been given especial emphasis by the fact that Dr. Adenauer, the West German Chancellor, is in Washington this week. For two years the United States has been putting its whole diplomatic weight behind the enfolding of Western Germany into a system of joint European defence through the device of the European Defence Community. Even with the massive weight of American influence behind it there is only a reasonable chance that the E.D.C. will be accepted by the parliaments of Western Europe. But now that there seems at least a possibility that the Iron Curtain which bisects Germany may be lifted or transformed into a substance more like copper gauze — if, that is, the Russians seriously intend to offer a formula for the re-unification of Germany and the withdrawal of foreign troops from it — it is being seriously questioned in Washington whether the present American emphasis on building a defensive and economic system around Western Europe alone would have any further validity.

■

THE second question is equally immediate if the present smoothly-running negotiations at Panmunjom lead in fact to the conclusion of an armistice in Korea. For by the letter of the armistice terms it must be followed within three months by a political conference on the future of Korea which could very easily be broadened out by either side into a presentation of demands covering the Far East as a whole. The fact is that since the outbreak of the Korean war the larger questions of relationships between the Western allies and Communist China have been put into the deep freezer, and three months is too short a time to thaw them out. American opinion as a whole has reached no settled conviction about the extent to which the United States should be prepared to demand a unified Korea.

Washington, April 12.

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Freedom for USSR Jews In Myerson Plea to UN

UNITED NATIONS, Monday. — In an address considerably milder than earlier drafts, Israel Minister of Labour Golda Myerson told the Political Committee today that the Government of Israel has observed the recent Soviet statements "with deep satisfaction and relief."

Mrs. Myerson was speaking in the debate on the Polish omnibus proposal on "Measures to avert the threat of a new world war and measures to strengthen peace and friendship among nations."

The Soviet Government's "full, frank and vigorous repudiation" of the charges published in connection with the alleged crimes of Soviet doctors at the behest of Jewish organizations, she said, "fully confirms and justifies the indignant reaction which the original charges and consequent press campaign evoked in my country, in Jewish communities abroad and amongst free governments, legislatures and public bodies throughout the world."

"Pravda," she recalled, described the false accusations against the doctors as "foul calumny and frantic slander," terms stronger than employed by Israel Foreign Minister Sharett before the Knesset.

Mentions Discrepancy

The Moscow statement, Mrs. Myerson added, "also implicitly admits what we ourselves knew: the utter guiltlessness of the Joint, the Zionist movement and Israel organs in respect of the charges levelled against them."

Referring to the discrepancy in the announced number of doctors arrested and released, she said: "we like to assume that Kogan and Ettinger, not listed among the released, are included among 'and others' as stated in the official communique."

Expressing the hope that the Moscow statement denotes an intention to eliminate the entire atmosphere which attended the anti-Jewish campaign and that such incitement will never again arise to mar international relations and friendship between peoples, Mrs. Myerson pointed out that the central question affecting the destiny of East European Jewry in their isolation remains unanswered by the recent developments.

"Israel is continuing to watch events with vigilant expectancy," she said. "The best assurance for the avoidance of such issues would be to allow those communities a normal degree of self-determination, both in respect of their communal and cultural life and in the freedom to come and join in the collective effort of the Jewish people to restore its national life in Israel."

She said this grave issue, with which she dealt "less fully than would have been the case before the recent favourable turn," should be seen within the widest context of international relations, for military aggression and minority oppression proved themselves in the past to be linked in a close and ominous kinship.

She recalled the massacre of six million Jews by the Nazis and said: "It was natural, therefore, that the revival of anti-Jewish incitement as a policy instrument in the hands of East European governments should have reminded the U.N. of something very close to its most intimate memory and responsibility. In the history of our people's unparalleled martyrdom we have observed a central constant fact — that the libel of 'a world Jewish conspiracy' sponsored or tolerated by governments never remained confined to hostile words but invariably degenerated into deadly acts which have brought untold sufferings upon the Jewish people."

Gravest Apprehension

It was also natural, Mrs. Myerson continued, for Israel and other lands to feel the gravest apprehension at the recent revival of wild accusations of a "world Jewish conspiracy" including Israel, the "Joint and Zionist organizations and leading Jewish personalities everywhere, first at Prague and then in Moscow. "My delegation considered," she said, "that the U.N. would not be true to its purpose and origins if it failed to take so grave a development under serious review."

Mrs. Myerson opened her address by saying that the Polish item now before the Committee enables the U.N. to review the international situation at what may be a fateful turning point. She introduced the question of anti-Semitic campaigns in Eastern Europe under this item since, she said, the first article of the

(Continued on Page 3, Col. 6)

U.S. Union Chief Held for Larceny

NEW YORK, Monday (Reuter) —The President of the West Coast Dockers Union, Joseph Ryan, was arrested today on 30 charges of grand larceny listed in an indictment accusing him of misusing union funds.

He was charged specifically with the theft of $11,390.

The theft allegedly occured between April, 1948, and April, 1951.

The 30 counts of the indictment included three counts of larceny in the first degree and 27 counts of larceny in the second degree.

Socialist Int'l Urges Middle East Peace

PARIS, Monday. — A resolution adopted at the end of the three-day meeting of the General Council of the Socialist International said that it was "essential that a lessening of tension be brought about at the nerve points of the Middle East and that cooperation be assured between Israel and the Arab countries on the basis of a stable peace."

Another resolution urged recognition of the Communist Government of China and its admission to the U.N.

The resolution said: "The Council welcomes the hope of a reduction of tension which has arisen from the seemingly greater readiness of the Soviet Union to move towards the position of the great majority of the U.N. in some respects.

"The free world should not miss any opportunity which this approach may present for ending the cold war."

But the resolution warned that until peace was achieved through collective security, the acceptance of arbitration and international disarmament, democracies must remain "armed, vigilant and united in defence of their freedom."

The Council noted with satisfaction the "apparent decision of the Soviet Union to end its detestable anti-Semitic persecution."

A communique stressed the basic principles of the Socialist doctrine, including the struggle against "racial discrimination, imperialist oppression and capitalist exploitation."

(Reuter, UP)

Party Purge Looms In Poland

VIENNA, Monday (AP). — A purge of the Polish Government and Communist Party appeared today looming over the heads of Polish leaders and party members. President Boleslaw Bierut, it was disclosed here, has demanded that the Polish United Workers (Communist) Party "purge its ranks of waverers and ideologically alien elements."

He made the demand in the Party's Central Committee on March 28. The text of his speech became public here today in the weekly journal of the Cominform.

Key Money Legalized In Custodian's Flats

Jerusalem POST Reporter

JAFFA, Monday.—Tenants in houses of the Custodian for Abandoned Property may now sell or transfer their flat or room for an agreed sum, it was disclosed here today. A committee to approve of each transaction will be set up by the Finance Ministry. One third of the amount received from a sale will automatically go to the Ministry, which has reportedly fixed the price of a grade A flat at IL.1,200.

A grade A flat has one room, a hall and kitchen and toilet facilities and must be situated in town. A flat shared by several tenants is subject to a 50 per cent reduction.

The Amidar Housing Company has been appointed agent for the Custodian of Absentees' Property and will manage all buildings under his jurisdiction in the towns of Safad, Tiberias, Beisan, Acre, Petah Tikva, Nes Ziona, Ramle, Lydda, Migdal Ascalon and their environs.

From April 15 tenants will transact all business with Amidar.

TUNISIANS HOLD FIRST ELECTIONS

TUNIS, Monday (UP).—For the first time in its history, the Arab population of this French Protectorate went to the polls today to elect local officials. But nationalist parties called for a boycott of the vote.

For another ten days, about 400,000 Tunisians will elect Kadis, heads of provincial districts.

Despite sharp protests, the French population will not participate in the elections on the ground that only a few Frenchmen live in the country.

Israel Purchasing Body In Cologne Delays Opening

COLOGNE, Monday (INA). — The Israel Purchasing Mission in Germany which was to have opened for business this Thursday, will not begin to function until the end of the month.

The head of the mission, Dr. Felix E. Shinnar, who was recently granted the personal rank of Minister Plenipotentiary, is still in Israel. He will fly to London next week and proceed to his new headquarters a few days later.

The rest of the mission staff, comprising some 50 industrial, commercial and legal experts, are due to arrive by the end of next week.

Arab MAC Chiefs to Talk of Peace; Moslem Brotherhood Foments War

Peace with Israel is the major item on the agenda of Friday's conference of Arab members of the Mixed Armistice Commissions, ANA reports. This third conference of delegates from Syria, the Lebanon, Jordan and Egypt, meeting in Cairo, is to discuss affairs common to the MAC's. Premier Nagib will attend one session.

It was announced yesterday that the Lebanese Government has decided to reimpose the state of emergency in the south of the country, "because it borders on Israel with which the Lebanon is still at war," ANA reports.

At the same time, the Lebanese Minister to Washington, Mr. Charles Malik, told a Beirut correspondent, "Peace with Israel would mean suicide for the Arabs."

Even more violent anti-Israel speeches were made at a meeting of 5,000 persons in the Old City on Sunday on the occasion of the Moslem feast, *Leilat el Isra'a*, "Night of the Ascension," according to "Falastin" and "A-Diffa."

Mohammed Abdu, commander of the Moslem Brotherhood squads in the Palestine war, said there was no doubt that the time for action in Palestine was rapidly approaching.

Jihad—an Obligation

The chief propagandist of the Brotherhood, Said Ramadhan, declared that members in Egypt were training for the second round which would come soon. He declared that Arab leaders had no right to think of peace with Israel because *Jihad*, the holy war, was one of the five obligations of Islam.

The "Night of the Ascension" marks Mohammed's miraculous translation to heaven from the site of the Haram es Sharif in the Old City. Sheikh Mohammed Khalifah, Chief Guide of the Brotherhood in Amman, told the crowd that the site of the Mosque, the second most sacred Moslem shrine, "is continuously threatened by the enemy who is only a few metres away."

The meeting, which was addressed by delegates from neighbouring Arab countries, resolved

- to hold an all-Moslem conference in Jerusalem every year on Leilat el Isra'a;
- to remind every Moslem that "the liberation of the Holy Land" is his sacred duty;
- to reserve Moslem properties and to secure them in Moslem hands, and,
- that victory in Palestine depends on the return of Moslems to the basis of their religion.

Israel-Syria MAC Meets After 2 Years

TIBERIAS, Monday.—After a two years's break, the Israel Syrian Mixed Armistice Commission met today at Roah Pina for an unofficial session with General William E. Riley, Chief U.N. Truce Supervision Officer, as chairman. This was the General's first MAC meeting since his return from the U.S.

All the permanent members of the two delegations were present. Recent frontier incidents were discussed without reference to the hundreds of complaints against armistice violations which have swelled the Commission's files for the past two years.

The Syrians broke off relations with the MAC in April 1951, after they made their continued cooperation conditional upon the discussion of the Huleh drainage scheme which the Israel delegation held to be outside the Commission's jurisdiction.

According to the old City daily, "A-Diffa," the Jordan-Israel MAC met at Mandelbaum Gate this morning to discuss the reports of its various committees of enquiry and to examine 19 complaints lodged by both sides.

Iran Army Warns Mossadegh Of Possible Revolt

TEHERAN, Monday (AP). — A group of army officers on active duty issued an announcement tonight saying that, with the enlisted men, they would stage an armed mutiny if Premier Mossadegh and his associates did not stop their "impertinent activities."

The statement declared its purpose was to safeguard the monarchy and save Iran from slavery.

At the same time the Teheran Military Governor issued a ban against any kind of demonstration tomorrow, when the Majlis is scheduled to meet for consideration of proposals that the Shah should "reign, not rule."

TOKYO, Monday (Reuter). — Japanese purchases of Persian oil were reported to have been discussed today between Mr. Norman Roberts, Commercial Minister at the British Embassy here, and Deputy Foreign Minister Okamura.

A spokesman for the Demitsu Company, which has sent a tanker to pick up oil in Abadan, said today that the deal would be a straight purchase by Japan and not a barter deal, as the company had earlier stated. "We will settle in dollars, which we obtained under government allocations for trade with the dollar area. We consider Persia is in the dollar area, and therefore it is not wrong to use dollars for this purpose," he said.

The Japanese tanker Nissho Maru left Abadan, the Iranian oil port, last night loaded with 18,000 tons of gasoline and fuel oil, according to reports from Teheran.

Dutch Town Reflooded As Inner Dikes Break

AMSTERDAM, Monday (UP). —The water was still rising in the reflooded town of Bruinisse on the southwestern Dutch island of Schouwen-Duiveland at noon today.

Several inner dikes on the island, badly hit in the February flood disaster and almost completely flooded, broke. Some 2,000 acres reclaimed in the course of the last two months were again inundated.

All dike breaches were stopped during the night except one near the town of Bruinisse on the southeastern tip of the island. Through a gap, 150 feet wide and ten feet across, the North Sea water flooded the town and the surrounding land. All efforts to stop this gap failed as sandbags brought into the hole were swept away by the strong current.

Part of the population of Bruinisse—about 1,200 persons —were evacuated and the Burgomaster yesterday ordered a ban on further return of his townspeople. All those remaining in Bruinisse were forced to seek refuge in their attics again.

Britain Names New Envoy to Damascus

LONDON, Monday (AP). — Mr. A.J. Gardener today was appointed British Ambassador to Damascus. He succeeds Mr. W. H. Montagu-Pollock, who has been at Damascus since July, 1950.

Mr. Gardener, 58, served as Ambassador to Afghanistan from 1949 to 1951.

Robertson Discusses Suez Canal Base

LONDON, Monday (Reuter). — The British Commander in the Middle East, General Robertson, had talks with the Minister of State Selwyn Lloyd at the Foreign Office today.

Earlier today he is believed to have discussed terms of any future withdrawal of the British troops from the Canal Zone base with Defence Minister Lord Alexander and the Chiefs of Staff.

Gen. Robertson returns to the Middle East later this week.

GROUNDED BULGAR SHIP LOADED WITH TANKS

ISTANBUL, Monday. — A 2,000-ton Bulgarian freighter, the Kirsto Mishko, driven aground near the Black Sea entrance to the Bosphorus Straits, was reported today to be loaded with tanks and military trucks for Albania.

Turkish rescue ships removed 34 of the 36-man crew yesterday but Captain Kunchez and one seaman refused to leave their vessel.

French Retreat as Vietminh Forces Open Drive on Laos

Communists' Aim: Revolution

HANOI, Wednesday (UP). — French Union forces have pulled out of the fortified town of Sam Neua and fallen back on new positions in the face of overwhelming Communist forces, the French Command announced today.

The garrison of Sam Neua, 150 miles west of here, was ordered to withdraw toward the Tran Nin mountain plateau and early today the evacuation was completed without enemy interference, a Command spokesman said. He said it was ordered because the French garrison was threatened with encirclement by three Communist-led Vietminh divisions marching on Laos.

Sam Neua, which guards the approaches to the sparsely-populated Kingdom, was the immediate target of the Vietminh's latest offensive against Laos.

The second target of the Communist offensive is the Thai country bastion of Nasam, 117 miles west of Hanoi, which is being hurriedly reinforced by the French command.

Public Admission

The Vietminh publicly stated today their aim was to touch off a revolution in Laos and Cambodia and to incorporate the two Kingdoms into an eventual Communist Indo-Chinese state. In a broadcast on the occasion of the Laotian and Cambodian New Year's Day, the Vietminh radio said, "The Workers' Party and the Vietminh people have the mission of creating a revolution in Cambodia and Laos. We, the cadres of the Vietminh who are the sons of President Ho Chi Minh, have been sent to serve this revolution and to create the Union of Vietminh, Cambodia and Laos."

Official French circles note this was the first time the Vietminh had publicly admitted interference in the affairs of Cambodia and Laos. The war has been concentrated on the state of Vietnam.

Sick PoW's Start On Road Home Today

TOKYO, Monday (Reuter). — Communist and Allied Staff officers reached "complete agreement" today on administrative details of the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners of war as, behind the lines, the first prisoner convoys were being assembled.

Tomorrow the first 23 vehicles laden with U.N. prisoners will start from Chonmo, North Korea, for Panmunjom, according to the Communists. The vehicles will have red markings one metre square on their bonnets and will fly red flags. Actual repatriation is to begin on April 20 and end by May 10.

The Communists said today that besides Koreans, Americans and British they would be handing back Canadians, Turks, Greeks, Dutch, Filipinos, South Africans, Australians and Colombians.

Speculate on 'Neutral'

Diplomats here think full armistice talks are not likely to resume until the disabled prisoners exchange is well under way. Speculation is on the Communist interpretation of a "neutral state" to which those who do not insist on repatriation shall be handed. Questions being asked here are whether this means physical transfer of the men to such a state or merely putting them in the hands of the state's representatives, and, whether Burma or Indonesia are in mind or whether the Communists mean to nominate Russia.

The U.S. battleship New Jersey—first ship to be hit by Communist shells in the Korean war nearly two years ago — returned to Korean waters today and went into action at once. Her heavy guns wrecked the main communications building at the north-east port of Chongjin with seven direct hits in seven minutes.

Peking Radio claimed today that in the five days ending last Friday Communist artillery killed or wounded 934 U.N. soldiers while their anti-aircraft batteries shot down or damaged 19 planes. A Belgian platoon was put out of action on April 7 at Kumhwa, the radio said.

USSR Challenged On Attitude on Korea

UNITED NATIONS, Monday (Reuter). — Delegates of the Netherlands and New Zealand challenged the Soviet Union today to clarify its attitude on the repatriation of prisoners of war. They spoke in the Political Committee's debate on the Polish draft resolution calling for measures to avert a new world war.

Mr. D. van Balluseck of the Netherlands referred to the declaration made by Soviet Delegate Andrei Vyshinsky in the course of a debate last week that the Soviet Union still insisted on the unconditional repatriation of prisoners of war. He asked, "Does this mean that the Communist Chinese and North Korean authorities would not be allowed to decide otherwise?"

Mr. Balluseck urged that the outcome of the present negotiations in Panmunjom should be left to the negotiators there. They in New York could not usefully interfere, he said.

Mr. Leslie Munro of New Zealand said that the man in the street longed for peace. "What answer for his longing does he find in the tortuous arguments of Mr. Vyshinsky?" he asked. "Nothing should be said or done here which would in any way impede the negotiations in Panmunjom."

U.S. Ex-Officer Confesses To Spying for Russia

WASHINGTON, Monday (Reuter). — Otto Verber, an Austrian-born former intelligence officer of the U.S. Army pleaded guilty today to conspiring to spy on American defence secrets for Russia.

Verber, 31, made his unexpected plea before Federal Judge Alexander Holtzoff, who said he would impose a sentence later. Verber faces a maximum of 10 years in prison.

The lawyer for Kurt Ponger, 39, Verber's co-defendant and [illegible]-law, told reporters that Ponger intended to stand trial.

Pleven Fears Army Plan May be Delayed

WASHINGTON, Monday (AP). —French Defence Minister Rene Pleven was reported today to have told U.S. Senators that the new Russian peace offensive may delay France's ratification of the NATO Treaty to set up a West European Army.

Senator Alexander Wiley, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee, said M. Pleven was "not at all pessimistic" about eventual French ratification of the West European defence treaty or about the French battle against the Communists in Indo-China. From other Senators it was learned that the French Minister said that while he believes the treaty will be ratified in time, he could not now predict that formal approval would be given.

Ratification Difficult

M. Pleven was reported to have told the Senators at a secret session of the Committee that while Communist influence in France apparently is declining, the internal political situation makes it more difficult to obtain treaty ratification in the face of the new Russian peace gestures. He said that he personally is convinced the Russians have only changed their tactics, not objectives, and was quoted as contending that the principal Soviet aim in changing the Communist line is directed at preventing the consolidation of Western defences.

He was represented as believing that there are no fundamental differences between France and Western Germany which cannot be compromised, but as cautioning the Senators that political differences in both countries must be taken into account in the efforts to resolve the issues between them.

U.S. DEFENCE SECRETARY IN EUROPE TOMORROW

FRANKFURT, Monday (Reuter). — U.S. Secretary of Defence Charles Wilson, is to arrive here by air on Wednesday for a three week visit to Europe, the U.S. European Command announced here today.

Formosa Seeks Settlement With Burma Outside U.N.

TAIPEH, Monday (UP). — U.S. Ambassador Karl L. Rankin met today with Chinese Nationalist Foreign Minister George Yeh in an effort to find a solution to a dispute with Burma over the presence of Chinese guerrilla troops in Burmese territory.

The Nationalist Government hoped to settle the dispute outside the U.N. Burma has asked the U.N. to brand Nationalist China as an "aggressor" for allowing its troops to violate her frontier.

Conditions Here Favour Private U.S. Investment, Says Johnston

TEL AVIV, Monday. — At the end of his two-day visit to Israel, Mr. Eric Johnston, Chairman of the International Development Advisory Board of the U.S., said he thought that conditions here were favourable to the flow of private capital in the form of investments by private American citizens. He told the press here today that he had met Government leaders, businessmen and industrialists and had found that all were interested in aiding an increase in investments.

While technical assistance given by the U.S. Government would continue and experts would be sent abroad to help in various fields, Mr. Johnston said he thought that aid in the form of grants would tend to decline and more encouragement would be given by the U.S. Government to American capitalists to invest their money abroad.

Tax Rebates

Steps to be taken in Washington to promote this change, Mr. Johnston suggested, might include extending the tax rebates for investors in the Western Hemisphere to other countries. At present an American investing in the American continent received a 14 per cent rebate from the normal 52 to 38 per cent tax.

Americans were showing a lively interest in foreign business propositions, the visitor noted, and investments abroad had risen from 600m. dollars in 1951 to 900m. dollars in 1952. Mr. Johnston hoped it would be possible to increase this sum to one per cent of the national income of 370 billion dollars, or 3.7 billion, which would be four times the 1952 investment figure.

Mr. Johnston stressed that to encourage American investors the "climate" must be favourable and as few obstacles as possible put in the way. The main purpose of his present visit was to study local conditions and report back to President Eisenhower on both the "climate" and the obstacles in each country.

He did not think there were great obstacles in the way of investments in Israel. The question of currency restrictions was a delicate one and varied from country to country, he said, refusing to be drawn into a discussion on exchange restrictions here. But he said he thought an investor should be allowed to repatriate his profits and the amortization on his original investment.

He gave it as his personal opinion that an investor should not demand special concessions and facilities not granted to local citizens, as this only tended to create jealousy. He recommended foreign investors going into partnership with local industrialists.

Investments in bonds, such as those of the Israel Government, would continue side-by-side with private investments, Mr. Johnston said, as there were some fields of development which only a Government could tackle, such as education, agriculture and transport. Few persons in the U.S. would be interested in investing in a railway, for example, as Americans had had bad experience in this field.

Mr. Johnston met President Ben-Zvi in Jerusalem today. This afternoon Mr. Johnston had a meeting at TCA headquarters here with Investment Centre officials and leading industrialists from both the cooperative and private sectors.

Mr. Johnston and his party are leaving Lydda airport for home tomorrow morning.

ELITE EXPORT Chocolate
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RICHER FLAVOUR THROUGH MACEDONIAN TOBACCO

Social & Personal

Messages of condolence have been sent by the President and by the Prime Minister to the wife of Mr. Dmitri Vlachov on the death of her husband, a veteran Yugoslav friend of the Zionist Movement. The Israel Minister in Belgrade, Mr. Ezra Yaron, attended the funeral at Slanjlje and laid two wreaths on Mr. Vlachov's coffin.

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A reception in honour of Mrs. Lorna Wingate and a group of visitors from England who had come for the opening ceremony of Yemin Orde today was held at the home of Mrs. Weizmann in Rehovot yesterday. Also present were Mrs. David Ben Gurion; Mr. Yosef Burg, Minister of Posts; the chairman of the Executive of the Jewish Agency and Mrs. Locker; Sir Francis Evans, the British Ambassador; the director of Youth Aliya and Mrs. Kol; Mr. W. Eytan, Director-General of the Ministry for Foreign Affairs; Mr. Yehezkel Sahar, Director General of Police, and others.

•

Professor A. L. Goodhart, Master of University College, Oxford, arrived by TWA yesterday as guest of the Government and the Hebrew University. He is to speak on "The Spirit of the Common Law" at 8.30 p.m. tomorrow at Rattisbonne Hall, Jerusalem. Prof. Goodhart will stay in this country for ten days.

•

Professor and Mrs. Norman Bentwich gave a reception last night to Professor and Mrs. Goodhart.

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Professor J. W. Cook, Regius Professor of Chemistry, Glasgow University, and Professor C. H. Andrewes, International expert in virus diseases, both members of the Royal Society, arrived by Cyprus Airways yesterday upon the invitation of the British Council.

•

Dr. Ernest Simke, the honorary Israel Consul in Manila, and Mrs. Simke, spent yesterday in Jerusalem. They are leaving for Europe on Thursday and expect to be back in Israel in August en route to the Philippines.

•

Miss Fanny Holzman, a New York lawyer and an American counsel to the Chinese Nationalist mission in the U.S., is staying at the King David Hotel in Jerusalem on her way back to New York from Formosa.

•

Dr. Sarah Bawly, Director of the College of Nutrition and Home Economics, gave a farewell party yesterday to Dr. Elda Robb who is leaving Israel after having advised on the setting up of the College on behalf of the Food and Agriculture Organization.

•

Mr. W. H. Kelly, police inspector of the Royal Canadian mounted police and an officer of the International Police Centre in Paris, arrived here yesterday by TWA on a private visit. He was invited to police headquarters after his arrival and introduced to high ranking officers there.

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FOR your family scrap-book — a press cutting from this paper. Announce your family events in this column of The Jerusalem POST.

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BIRTH

KAHN—To Erna (nee Bernet) and Herbert Kahn, Naharlya, on April 11—a daughter, Yael.

MEMORIAL MEETING

JACOB CHASIN

A memorial service on the 30th day following the death of Mr. Jacob Chasin, veteran Israel journalist, was held by the Jerusalem Journalists Association yesterday. He was eulogized by Mr. Beri Coralnick, Chairman of the Association, and by Mr. S. Ben Horin and Mr. Y. Tanpal. The Association's Loan Fund, of which Mr. Chasin was chairman, was named after him.

EMERGENCY PHARMACIES

JERUSALEM: 7 Ben Yehuda, 2211. Hat'hiya, Geula, 2452.
TEL AVIV: Abramski, 42 Allenby, 3636. Frankel, 29 King George, 3721. Reichhart, 19 Nahlat Benyamin. Mercas Hatzafon, 200 Ben Yehuda, 63923. Ziva, Hatikva Qtr., 67403.
JAFFA: 340 — 3rd St., 80793. HAMAT GAN: Hygea, 61 Arlosoroff. Shikun Herut.
HAIFA: 1, Hersilia, 4014. Hagalil, 19 Allenby.

ON THE AIR

JERUSALEM: 467 M.; HAIFA: 249 M.; TEL AVIV: 41.0, 32.8 & 323 M.

NEWS: Hebrew: 7 a.m., 7.30, 1.30, 6.15 & 11.00 p.m. Arabic Programme (including News): 8 a.m., 1.15 & 6.15 p.m.
6.30 a.m. Service. 6.35 Exercise. 6.45 Musical Clock (R). 7.15 Melodies (R). 8.30 Close Down.
10.30 a.m. Music While You Work (R). 11.00 Piano Recital (R). 11.30 Military Bands (R). 11.40 Housewives' Corner (R). 12.00 Programme for Hospitals (R). 12.30 At the Opera (R). 1.45 Programme Announcements. 1.45 Break for Music (R). 2.00 Close Down.
4.00 p.m. Variety (R). 4.45 Music (R). 5.30 Agricultural Programme. 6.00 Language Corner. 6.45 Children's Hour. 7.00 The Navy in the War of Liberation. 7.30 Announcements. 7.35 Violin Recital (R). 7.45 Noah's Ark. 8.34 Bible Reading. 8.45 "Economic Achievements" by the Minister of Commerce and Industry. 9.00 Programme of the Ingathering of the Exiles. 10.00 Twenty Questions. 10.30 Requests (R). 11.55 Close Down.

SECOND PROGRAMME
490, 224, 214, 48.9 M.
English News: 1.45 p.m., 10.15 p.m. 4.00 p.m. Chamber Music (R). 5.00 Programme for Yemenites. 5.20 Literature Corner. 5.30 Science Studio. 6.00 Programme for Housewives (R). 6.15 Close Down.
IMMIGRANTS HOUR (33.2, 34.9 & 460 M.). French: 6.30 p.m. Ladino 7.00 p.m. Yiddish: 7.30 p.m.
KOL ZION LAGOLA (33.2 M.): 11.15 Newsreel. 11.30 Dances of Israel Communities. 11.40 The Week's News.
ARMY PROGRAMME: (44.6, 226, 225 & 220 M.): 6.30 Opening. 6.35 Gadna Programme. 7.00 The Navy in the War of Liberation. 7.30 Today's Events. 7.35 Programme for a Young Driver. 7.45 Noah's Ark. 8.45 "Economic Achievements." 9.00 Dance Music. 10.00 Close Down.
B.B.C. HEBREW BROADCASTS: 24.92 & 30.53 M.): 6.30-7.00 p.m. News: News Talk. Press Review.
VOICE OF AMERICA: Hebrew Programme: 8-8.30 p.m. (19, 25, 19 & 25 M.): Short Story.

THE HEBREW NATIONAL
OPERA
PREMIERES
Tuesday, April 21, at 8.30 p.m.
Tuesday, April 28, at 8.30 p.m.
Song of Norway
Operetta in 3 acts (7 scenes) based on the life and music of Edvard Grieg.
Hebrew: A. Ashman
Director....Elie de Philippe
Conductor....E. Prieli
Decor....Genya Berger
Ballet....G. Fiskin
Tickets at:
Berlin, 67 Allenby Road, Tel. 5019 and at Habimah Box.

THE ISRAEL PHILHARMONIC ORCHESTRA
Subscription Concert No. 8
JERUSALEM: EDISON TONIGHT AT 9
TEL AVIV: SERIES 8 Saturday, April 18.
Jascha Heifetz Recital
JERUSALEM, "EDISON" Thursday, April 16, at 9 p.m.
Sale of tickets at Cahana's
Special Subscription Concert (3)
HAIFA: ARMON Tomorrow, April 15, 9 p.m.

PAGE TWO

FIRST THINGS FIRST:

REFLECTIONS ON NEW MASONITE PLANT

Post Economic Correspondent

THE visitor to the Jordan Valley has become used to the large plywood factory in Afikim, symbolizing the industrialization of this neighbourhood which has acquired fame as the cradle of the collective settlements and of mixed farming. Near the older factory he will now come across a huge structure housing what may well turn out to be Israel's biggest factory. This is "Befen," a plant for the production of masonite, an artificial wood which serves a variety of purposes in the building industry.

The plant is the joint enterprise of "Ampal," the Histadrut sponsored investment company, and of six settlements in the Jordan Valley. It will use as raw material the waste of Afikim's adjacent plywood factory for which wood is imported from Africa; in addition it is proposed to use eucalyptus wood which grows in small forests in various parts of the country and has been planted along roads during the last few years. The factory will require an investment of $2m. and at least as much again in Israel Pounds. The money has been provided by "Ampal" and by loans contracted by the settlements. A third of the product is scheduled for exports. The rest is for home consumption and there are plans to stop the import of prefabricated huts from Finland and Sweden and use the masonite produced by the new factory instead.

"Astonishing" Enterprise

The only appropriate word to describe the impression made by the new enterprise is "astonishing". Huge machines, part of them placed underground, await the completion of the huge factory halls being erected. These halls are very high and lofty so as to make the Jordan Valley's stifling heat less oppressive. They will be provided with flourescent lighting and every modern convenience. Wandering through the immense buildings you find the most modern American machinery being installed while intricate apparatus still inside packing crates is piled high on the new concrete floor. It is already possible to follow in imagination the production process which will change wood into the light but strong sheets of masonite. The speed with which the factory has been erected is amazing and so is the initiative and business ability of the persons who conceived the plan and have undertaken its execution.

The economic and social logic of the project is however open to doubt. Here is a huge undertaking launched by partners without the necessary capital who must rely on short term loans, granted for six years including the period of the erection of the plant. The site of the factory has apparently been determined by the adjacent plywood plant which will provide up to 60 per cent of the raw material. But the eucalyptus wood will have to be brought from different parts of this country by truck. There is no need to stress the high cost of transport. Fuel will also have to be brought to the site and the finished products will have to be taken either to Haifa for export or to their destinations at home.

Economic Logic Questioned

It is being argued, of course, that such is also the case in Afikim's plywood factory which imports all its raw material and ships it from the port to the Jordan Valley. But the economic logic of running this sort of factory which imports expensive raw material, transports it on imported trucks driven by imported fuel and ships it back again has often been questioned. If eucalyptus wood which grows along the high roads is to be used, it will have to be felled tree by tree, collected and transported at high cost. It would probably be simpler to plant a large wood in the vicinity of the factory and so save transport.

When the factory is finished, work in three shifts will employ no more than 150 workers. This huge outlay of capital on each worker employed would be justified if we were short of men and had to do our utmost to substitute human labour by machinery. This is not our position, however. We are short of money and the mechanization of our plants does not give employment to basic industries because we have none. If one of the goals of this undertaking had been to bring more people to the Jordan Valley, it would have been simpler to choose more modest and less modern equipment. The installation would have been cheaper and more persons would have found work. As it is, we are erecting one of the three most modern masonite factories in the world. This stimulates the imagination but makes it doubtful if development is sufficiently well co-ordinated.

Short of Funds

These considerations will not change things in the new plant. If it is short of money, the Treasury will have to come to its aid because the building is already under construction and because fabulous machines are on the spot waiting to be assembled and to be put in motion. A huge project with an immense outlay of capital; a small number of persons to be employed; a doubtful site from the viewpoint of transport; these factors should make us think twice. With too little money for the expansion of agricultural settlement and other basic projects, we must learn to put first things first.

Agency Workers Arrested

RAMLE, Monday (ITIM). — Twelve workers at the Jewish Agency stores near here were arrested yesterday and charged with obstructing the work at the stores last Friday when they allegedly forcibly prevented other employees from entering the stores. They were later released in bond.

The incident resulted from an agreement reached three months ago between the Histadrut and the Jewish Agency whereby the regular workers at the stores should work 22 days a month and the other days be alloted to temporary workers.

The regular workers, who have adhered to the agreement for three months, now decided they did not like this system any more and tried to prevent the temporary workers from entering the works.

REVIEW OF YESTERDAY'S PRESS

General Zionists Advised To Seek Currency Alternative

Domestic issues once again took first place in the editorial columns of the press.

Commenting on the measure of success achieved so far by the General Zionist representatives in the Cabinet and the criticism voiced by some G.Z. members against participation in the coalition, "Ha'aretz" (Independent) says that this party must show capability within the coalition. It can be taken for granted that Mapai does not make life easy for G.Z. Ministers, but first of all they must fight to bring about the realization of their plans. In order to do this they need a clearly defined line of policy. On such issues as the abolition of foreign currency control which, "Ha'aretz" does not credit them with. Without such alternative proposals they will in due course become Mapai satellites not unlike the "Progressives," and will not be able to influence decisions. Nor can they appear before their voters in future and argue that they had tried their best but that their suggestions had been rejected by Mapai — unless they propose an alternative policy.

Crucial Issue

"Haboker" (General Zionist) says that the problem of the abolition of control on foreign currency is the crucial issue of our economy. The paper reiterates its demand that a board to deal with these issues be established and that foreign specialists be asked for advice. The paper points out that this is a matter of expert knowledge and that many of those who have to deal with difficult problems of this sort do not have the necessary training and knowledge.

"Hatzofe" (Hapoel Hamizrahi) deals with the agreement reached between the Ministry of Communications and the traffic cooperatives and says that only half the task has been accomplished. The monopoly has not yet been broken, the Government will only be able to take part in the deliberations of the companies. The paper emphasizes that transport is not a private enterprise but a public service so that the whole issue of Government "interference" appears in a different light.

In a leading article "Davar" protests against the ban imposed by the Director General of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry on the 'Hevra Le'melacha' not to buy and distribute leather to the shoemakers. The paper says that this agency was founded as a central organization for the small manufacturers so as to help them obtain cheaper raw material by collective buying. In all progressive States such an enterprise would have received public support, but it appears that the interests of the large manufacturers have prevailed over the interests of the little man. The paper asks for a speedy revocation of this administrative act of injustice.

Dispute in Coalition

"Al Hamishmar" (Mapam) comments on the dispute within the Coalition on the Unemployment Tax. The paper says that even the party of Messrs. Rokah and Bernstein has realized that the Government will have to do something but they do not want the rich to carry their part of the burden. Mr. Ben Gurion made far-reaching compromises when the property tax bill was adopted, but he cannot release the G.Z. party from the burden this time: that is the underlying reason for the quarrel. The paper criticizes the General Zionists' argument, according to which the money allocated to funds to combat unemployment will adversely affect production and buying power. "Al Hamishmar" says that they are not going to bring down costs, that they will react to the imposition of more taxes by sabotaging production.

"Herut" claims in its editorial that the enemies of France are also our enemies. This comes as a reply to the statement of the secretary of the Tunisian Neo-Destour party to a "Ha'aretz" correspondent in Paris, in which it was said that the Tunisian national movement was interested in obtaining Israel support.

Long Awaited Boxing Show Disappoints

The long-awaited boxing show between Tel Aviv and Haifa selected teams, with men from Hapoel Maccabi and Betar in both teams, at the Ziratron last Friday proved disappointing with only six of the ten scheduled bouts taking place, and that after a delay of 40 minutes in the advertised commencing time.

Three of the non-appearers were Tel Aviv men and one Haifa, so that the latter started off with a six to two point advantage. The final "result" was a win for the Haifa combination by 11 points to nine.

Haifa went straight into the lead, gaining four easy points when the Tel Aviv "pegs" in the fly and bantamweights did not turn up. Oved earned a further two points for Haifa when he gained a deserved victory by many poin's over Tel Aviv's Oradia in a feather-weight bout. Oved took the honours in the first round with an attacking policy, but Oradia took over that part, although without the same technique, in the second round. Both men were short of breath in the final round but Oved clearly deserved to win.

Cohens Draw

The lightweight fight between Moshe Cohen (Tel Aviv) and Yosef Cohen (Haifa) provided the only draw on the card. The Tel Aviv man took the first round with long swift well-placed jabs but his Haifa rival made it even with a good display in the next round while the third and final round was even, to make the score 7-1 in Haifa's favour.

Haifa went further ahead when the light-welter Tel Aviv man did not appear, and they then lead 9-1. A good welterweight meeting was spoiled, after a good opening show, when the referee disqualified Tel Aviv's Greenberg for foul blows, giving the verdict to Weissfish, who in any event was slightly ahead of his southern opponent. The ref's verdict aroused some discussion among spectators.

This gave Haifa a large 11-1 lead, but from then on the Tel Avivians collected all the points. The light-middleweight Mekler was too good for Haifa's Shmuel Jacques all three rounds, attacking all through, although Jacques put up some nice defensive moves. This made it 11-3 for Haifa. The only knockout on the card came in the next fight when Avraham Levy, Tel Aviv, laid out Zadka in the second round. Levy was very good in the opening round, hitting fast and accurately. Kadka tried hard in the second but Levy was soon well on top until he floored his rival for the count, to reduce the Tel Aviv deficit to 11-5.

Foul Hitting

Light-heavy Nasra gained two more points for Tel Aviv when he clearly outboxed Haifa's Rosen, who was prone to clinch at the slightest opportunity. To even matters up Haifa's heavyweight man did not turn up so Tel Aviv collected another two points and the final tally came to 11-9 in Haifa's favour.

To add to the fan's grievances even the exhibition bout ended in the disqualification of Tel Aviv's Ben Zion Levy for foul hitting, in a bout against Finkelstein, of Haifa. Referee Kuperstein ruled against Levy after administering several warnings against illegal blows. The Tel Avivian left the ring and refused to return.

It was a pity that the fans were not given a good chance to appreciate the capabilities of referee Arthur Kuprestein, from Poland, a well known boxing controller, whose efforts in the ring gave signs of some of the ability he has in his sphere. The points referees were: Shaw, Shinovitz and Ruchman. (Briefly reported Sunday).

OLYMPIC TIMES APPROVED

A message from Helsinki states that the Finnish Olympic Committee have approved, as Israel Olympic records, performances achieved at the last Olympic Games in the Finnish capital last year. These are:

200 m.: David Tabak — 21.8 seconds; 400 m.: Arieh Glick, 49.6 seconds; Discus throw: A. Glin — 41.47 metres; Shooting: 3 x 40: Ben Dov — 1033 points; S. Lavi—973 pts.; Small calibre (40 shots); Z. Ponkus—380 pts.; A. Alirax — 388 pts.: Small calibre (3 x 40): Z. Pinkus — 1077 pts.; A. Alirax — 1059 pts.

I.A.S.F. Basketball League Starts

The long-awaited non-partisan Israel Basketball League organized by the Israel Amateur Sports Federation is scheduled to start its programme next Saturday, with teams from Maccabi and Hapoel participating in League play for the first time.

The scheduled start last week was postponed because of the training of the "possibles" to represent Israel in the European Basketball Championships in Moscow on May 24.

The training camp with 22 players was opened in Petah Tikva. The team will be chosen and announced on Wednesday. The final delegation will comprise 14 players, a referee, a trainer and two representatives of the I.A.S.F. who will take part in the International Basketball Federation Congress which will be held at the same time as the championships.

Ankara Date Still Undecided

The return light athletics meeting between Tel Aviv Maccabi and Ankara Selected is still in the air due to a difference of opinion over dates. The Turks want to come to Tel Aviv for the contest in May but the Israel Amateur Sports Federation have suggested June.

Notices to the Public

CHANGE OF ADDRESS

The Soldiers' Commemoration Dept. of the Ministry of Defence hereby announces that the branch in Jerusalem has been transferred to Rehov Ben Yehuda, Sansour Building, 3rd floor, room 221. Tel. 2307.
No.441.

STOCK MARKET

TEL AVIV

APRIL 13.	Rates or Bid	Rises or Fall
Govt Loan		
3%—1953 (reg)	100½	—
—1955 (reg.)	100	—
2½—1956 (reg.)	100½	—
Dep. Loan		
1949/69 (IL.10)	101½	—
1950/75 (IL.10)	98	—
3½% Tawel Dollar	202	—2)
3% Nat Loan (large)	277½	+3c)
B. Leumi Ord. sh.	350	+3a)
A.P.B. Invest.		
4% Debs 50/70	94½	—
4½% Pref. sh.	98	—
Ord. sh. "B"	106½	—
Gen. Mortg. Bk.		
4% Debs 48/63	83	—
4% pref. sh.	81½	+½
Bizur Debs.		
4% 46/58	91	—
4% 56/65	69	—
4½% 52/68 reg.	83	—
Nir Ltd.		
4% Debs. 39/59	88	—
5% Pref. sh.	61	—1)
Pass Debs.		
4% 42/62	79½	—
P.L.D.C.		
Ord. sh.	178½	+1
5% Debs.	100	+1
Afr. Pal. Inv. Ord. sh.	124½	+½
Rasseo		
4% Debs. 56/63	68	—b)
6% Pref. Ord. sh.	90	+1
Pal. Potash 6% Pref. sh.	158	—a)
" "A" Ord. sh.	90	—
Pal. Elec. Ord. sh.(Isr.)	156	—2½
Mekorot 6% Pref. sh.	68	—
Ata 4% "C" Pref. sh.	95½	—
Ord. "B" sh.	150½	—
"Kurdanch" Ord.B.sh.	131	—
Assia-Bej.: "B" sh.	166	—
"Teva" Ord. sh.	99	—
Nesher 6% Debs. Ser.A	103½	—
Ledzis 4½% Pref. sh.	61	—
S.A. Binyan Ord. sh.	88	—
Pal. Centr. Tr.	83½	—
Pal. Eesrer Bd.		
Ser. 1	88½	—
Ser. 2	67½	—
Ser. 3	69½	—

Notes: a) purchasing price; b) selling price. c) ex coupons; d) ex rights.

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RAMAT GAN

AT THE CINEMA

'SENZA Pieta' (Orna, J'lem) is the story of a white girl, a coloured G. I. and blackmarketeers.

Carla del Poggio and John Kitzmueller are good principles, and the acting standard throughout is first rate. The photography adds considerably to this moving film.

Snow-Biz Ice Capade

There are two extraordinary revivals this week, the late Victor Fleming's marvellous screen version of Kipling's deeply moving romance of the high seas and true friendship "Captain Courageous" (Eden J'lem), starring Spencer Tracy and Freddie Bartholomew and "Sun Valley Serenade" (Orion, J'lem). There is the dazzling performance of Sonja Henie and as contrast the phenomenal tapdancers, the coloured Nicholas Brothers.

FRANGO

Second-Rate Film

"ANGELS in the Outfield" (Esther, Tel Aviv), following the directives of a poorly written script, reflects typical stock characters and situations of an American second-rate film: there is the bachelor manager of a baseball-team; the girl reporter who tames him (and who, according to cinematic rule, is suddenly found in his flat in a becoming apron, busily preparing coffee); and a six-year-old orphan girl unconsciously bringing them together. Paul Douglas and Janet Leigh are the protagonists.

Mo.

JERUSALEM CINEMAS

3.30, 7 & 9 p.m.
ARNON: To The Victor.
EDEN: Captain Courageous.
EDISON: Magnificent Doll.
OR-GIL: High Noon.
ORION: Sun Valley Serenade.
ORNA: Senza Pieta.
STUDIO: Under Capricorn.
ZION: Big Carnival.

Where to go

JERUSALEM

8.30-12.30: American Library and Reading Room. U.S. Consulate, Mamillah Rd., Entrance Free.
9-1: 2-5: Bezalel Museum, Exhibit: Illustrated Haggada.
9-4: Archaeological Exhibition, Dept. of Antiquities, 25 Rehov Shlomo Hamalech.
10-1: Sanhedria Tombs.
11.30-12.30: Film Show at Keren Hayesod.
10-1; 4-6: Jerusalem Artists. Spring Exhibition. Artists House.

TEL AVIV

3-8 p.m.: J. Wexler's Exhibition of Paintings. Art Pavillion, 9 Rehov Alharizi.
7 & 9.30 p.m.: Li-La-Lo. "Spring in Tel Aviv." Jascha Heifetz Hall.
8 p.m.: "Desire Under the Elms." Chamber Theatre, Mograbi.
8.30 p.m.: The American artist, Joseph Buloff, at Ohel Shem.

HAIFA

4-7 p.m.: Paintings and sculptures, Haifa Artists. Artists Home, 32 UNO Ave. (opp. Carmelia Court).
10-1: Jewish Antiquities, Hellenistic, Roman, Byzantine, Arabic Art. Municipal Museum, Town Hall.

RAMAT GAN

8.30 p.m.: Svetlova and her Group, Rama.

NATANYA

8 p.m.: "Saint Joan", Chamber Theatre.

Tel Aviv Chamber Choir
(120 members)
Tomorrow at Ohel Shem Hall, Tel Aviv,
Highlights of the programme:
Bach's "Magnificent"
Beethoven's 'Choral Fantasia'
Conductor: EYTAN LUSTIG
Tickets:
Schlessinger & Springer

Israel Touring Club
Talbieh, Jerusalem
THE TRADITIONAL
Independence Day
PARTY
for members and tourists will be held on Monday, April 20 at 9 p.m.

SOUTH AFRICAN ZIONIST FEDERATION
A Reception
IN HONOUR OF VISITORS WILL BE HELD AT THE South African Clubroom, 109 Rehov Hayarkon, Tel Aviv, on Sunday, April 19, at 5 p.m.
All South African visitors and residents cordially invited.

THE HAIFA ORCHESTRA
ARMON THEATRE MONDAY, APRIL 20 AT 9 P.M.
Independence Day Gala Concert
Under the patronage of the Haifa Mayor, Mr. ABBA KHOUSHY
With a guest conductor from the U.S.A., JACQUES SINGER
Programme:
Haydn — Symphony No. 88, G Major; Lavri — Israeli country dances; Grieg — Heart wounds; Dubensky — Fugue for 13 violins (first performance in Israel); Sibelius — Valse Triste; Beethoven — Egmont Overture.
TICKETS:
Kovalsky, 34 Rehov Nordau; Ginsburg, 25 Rehov Herzl; Music Universal Abilea, 6 Rehov Hanneviim.

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ALLENBY CINEMA • STARTING TONIGHT
To meet the special request of all admirers of Edmond Rostand's masterpiece "CYRANO DE BERGERAC" in its original language, we have succeeded in obtaining, at the last moment, a special print of the
FRENCH VERSION
of
Cyrano de Bergerac
This French version will be shown as from tonight at the ALLENBY CINEMA, Tel Aviv.
Note: The English version of "Cyrano de Bergerac" will continue to be shown simultaneously at the Mograbi Cinema.

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Today's Post Bag

THE WEATHER

	A	B	C	D
Mount Canaan	40	16	22	19
Tiberias	33	18	9	27
Haifa Port	78	15	27	23
Natanya	74	13	23	22
Hakirya	74	13	26	25
Tel Aviv Port	87	14	22	22
Lydda	60	10	28	26
Jerusalem	21	19	26	22
Beersheba	80	13	28	25

FORECAST: Partly cloudy to fair.
*A) Humidity at 1 p.m. B) Maximum temp. C) Maximum temp. yesterday. D) Maximum temp. expected today.

DURING March, 1,126 immigrants arrived in the country.

A CYCLIST, Shlomo Katz, 22, was badly hurt when his bicycle collided with a tender on the Allenby Road-Rehov Geula crossing in Tel Aviv yesterday. He was taken to the Hadassah Hospital while the driver, Shmuel Bendermacher of Rehov Arlosoroff was detained and later released on bond.

A PLATINUM and five-karat diamond ring was reported missing last week by Jacqueline Minzer, an American tourist now staying at the Kaete Dan Hotel, Tel Aviv. Police believe that the ring was lost in her room and picked up there.

800 MULES and 130 work horses for new settlements arrived in Haifa yesterday morning in the s.s. Pam Christian Victory.

Finance Ministry Has Three Functions: Eshkol

The Ministry of Finance has had three principal functions, Mr. Levi Eshkol, Minister of Finance, said in a talk over Kol Yisrael last night. These were the development of sources of internal income to provide for state expenditure; the mobilization of funds from abroad and the encouragement of savings in order to increase the amount of investment in the country; and the direction of a sound economic policy encouraging all productive forces in the country to increased efforts in vital branches of our economy. Mr. Eshkol was the second speaker in a series devoted to "Five Years of the State of Israel."

The Ministry's success in mobilizing internal funds for the balancing of our budgets can be seen from the enormous increase in the size of those budgets: while the 1949 budget amounted to IL. 17,575,000 the 1951/52 budget reached IL.114,615,000. Despite this increase, the 1951 budget was successfully balanced.

However, in order to maintain this success, Mr. Eshkol declared, the Government has had to compromise with its social ideals of increasing our services to the maximum. The Minister stressed that few countries have managed to balance their budget after only five years existence.

While our efforts to raise the amount of savings in this country have not produced satisfactory results, the Ministry succeded in the four years from 1949-53 in causing the inflow of IL.500m.

JOBLESS SET UP ROAD BLOCK

Scores of unemployed from the Hartuv *ma'abara* formed a road block on the nearby highway and stopped paving work for three hours yesterday.

The jobless men explained to police who had been called that labourers were being brought from Ramle and Jerusalem to do the work while they had been unemployed for an extended period.

The demonstrators dispersed after they were assured that their position was being looked into. *(Itim)*

JLEM ASKS RETURN OF FROZEN FUNDS

The Jerusalem Municipal Council has asked the Foreign Ministry to negotiate in London for the release of the water equipment amortisation fund of the Mandatory Municipality, now held in a frozen account there. The Municipality asks that 62.5 per cent of the fund be put at its disposal — that being the proportion of Jews in the population of the city at the end of the Mandate.

RATION NEWS

NORTHERN DISTRICT — Biscuits: 200 grams, temp. 16. Sweets: 150 grams, temp. 17. Local Jam: 300 grams, No.359, temp. 21.
SOUTHERN DISTRICT — Frozen meat: 150 grams, Gimel 40, temp. 43; invalids: 500 grams for Het Gimel 15. Fillet: 150 grams, 474, 473, 491, 492; temp: 21.
TEL AVIV DISTRICT — Butter and eggs for invalids: 100 grams butter, Het Aleph 2, Het Bet 2, Het Gimel 14; 4 eggs, Het Aleph 2, 3; Het Bet 3, 8, Het Gimel 14.

Levanon Elected Tel Aviv Mayor, Peri and Shoshani his Deputies

Jerusalem POST Bureau

TEL AVIV, Monday. — At a brief, perfunctory meeting of the Municipal Council here tonight Mr. Haim Levanon was elected Mayor of Tel Aviv; Mr. E. Peri and Mr. S. Shoshani were elected his deputies. Mr. Peri is to be Acting Mayor when the occasion arises.

Within five minutes of the opening of the meeting Mr. Levanon had been elected Mayor by the votes of the General Zionist and Histadrut blocs, and a few minutes later the deputies were voted in. The Herut faction proposed Mr. M. Ichilov for Mayor, but he received only three votes of his faction, as one Herut Councillor was absent.

There were no other candidates for Deputy Mayor.

The religious factions abstained from voting, stating that they thought there should be a third Deputy Mayor, while the left-wing factions and the Herut faction all cast black ballots. The Progressive member on the Council was absent.

Mr. Levanon thanked the Council and said he would not expound his plans for the city but would try to justify the faith expressed in him.

Wholehearted Devotion

Mr. Peri said now was the time for wholehearted devotion to the affairs of the city. He had not sought the position, he said, but had acquiesced to the wishes of the labour movement to which he belonged. In reply to a reporter's question he said later that he would not leave his position of General Manager of Amidar "for a long while to come" as he wished to implement his reorganization plan for the national housing company.

After the elections Mr. D. Yutan (Herut) attacked the "unsavoury" alliance of the General Zionist and Mapai and said the Municipality was "corrupt."

Messrs. Y. Zilber (Communist), P. Tubin (Left Faction), A. Cholodniewics (Mapam) and M. Ben Anat (Lamdan - Lifshitz) each voiced his objection to the new Mayor, stressing the unemployment situation in the city.

The public gallery of the Council hall was packed today as were the galleries reserved for municipal and other officials. There was a general feeling of anti climax after the business-like manner of the elections.

Kupat Holim Director

Mr. Peri, born in 1894, came to Palestine from Russia in the early twenties and has since concerned himself exclusively with public affairs. He has been a member of the Directorate of Kupat Holim since his arrival in the country. He became a Tel Aviv councillor in 1930 and served as Deputy Mayor from 1936 to 1941. He is on the board of directors of the American Fund for Israel Institutions and of the "Davar" daily.

Mr. Peri was the first Food Controller in the State of Israel and was subsequently Director General of the Ministry of Defence. At the moment, he holds the post of General Manager of Amidar. In Histadrut circles, he is considered an expert on local government.

Mr. Shoshani, born in Russia in 1899, arrived in Palestine in 1907. One of the founders of Tel Aviv, he organized its internal security forces. He was one of the founders of the Hagana and a senior officer in the defence organization. Today he is the senior councillor.

From 1928 to 1932 he served as head of the Municipal Finance Committee and in the present Council heads the Sewage and Planting Departments. Mr. Shoshani is the chairman of the Landlords Association and a veteran of the Merchants Association. He owns a printing press in Tel Aviv which bears his name.

Eggs, Poultry, Meat, 'Gazoz' Prices to Rise

Prices of eggs, poultry and local meat will go up tomorrow. Eggs will be priced as follows: extra grade — 80 pruta each; grade A — 70 pruta; grade B — 65 pruta. Fresh beef will cost IL.2. — per kilogram; veal, lamb and poultry will cost IL.2.4.

The price rises were ordered because of the the rise in fodder prices and production costs.

TEL AVIV, Monday. — The price of soda water will increase tomorrow from 10 to 15 pruta and that of gazoz from 25 to 30 pruta, according to an agreement between the Kiosk Owners Association and the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

Kiosk owners will have the right to raise the price of their drinks again by five prutot on June 1.

It is expected that within a few days the Ministry of Commerce and Industry will announce higher prices for sugar.

ROBBED, STRIPPED TIED TO POLE

TEL AVIV, Monday (ITIM). — Naked and weak with fright, Raphael Hajij, 31, of Kfar Salame was found with his hands and feet bound to an electric pylon in Rehov Tayasim, near Yad Eliahu, after midnight last night. He had been left there by four robbers who had stolen his cash and his watch and had then stripped him.

Hajij was picked up almost unconscious by an El Al staff bus on its way to Tel Aviv and taken straight to the Magen David Adom, from where after first aid treatment he was sent to the Hadassah Hospital.

Although police believe that the crime resulted from a personal grudge against him Hajij denied this and said he suspected no one.

JOY OF LEARNING

Jerusalem POST Reporter

Hundreds of singing and dancing men and boys filled Zion Square in Jerusalem at 11 o'clock last night to celebrate the conclusion of the fourth complete reading of the Gemara at the rate of one page a day. Seven years are thus needed to study the Talmud.

This "one-page-a-day" movement is sponsored by the World Agudat Yisrael party.

Yesterday's celebration was also an expression of the joy of the devout and the studious that the fifth cycle of Gemara reading was now beginning.

AGENCY DISCUSSES UNIVERSITY SUBSIDIES

The forthcoming session of the Zionist General Council, the gold shekel plan of the Jewish National Fund, and subsidies for the Hebrew University and the Technion were discussed at a meeting of the Jewish Agency Executive yesterday.

Contractors Ask End Of All Building Controls

Jerusalem POST Staff

A two day national conference of building contractors ended in Jerusalem yesterday with the adoption of a number of resolutions to be presented to the Government. They included a demand for the total abolition of all controls on the building industry, the granting of both short and long term loans to the industry, and permission for building contractors to sell flats and buildings to people abroad for foreign currency which they would use to buy building materials.

Other proposals made during the debate were that the planned increase in the cement tax should not be implemented and that public institutions should invite tenders for the construction of their buildings.

Speakers pointed out that neither the Minister of Commerce and Industry, his Director General, nor even the new head of the Building Department had thought it necessary to attend the opening of the conference or send a message to it.

It was decided to open courses for young men who wish to enter the trade and study methods of increasing efficiency.

Former Postal Officials Tried for Negligence

TEL AVIV, Monday (ITIM). — Two former Customs and Post Office officials were brought before the District Court today on charges of negligence and disloyalty. The first accused, David Dalal, reportedly failed to check seven parcels which arrived in the Yad Eliahu post office during May-June last year, while Ephraim Ishikhrof gave Dalal wrong information on the contents of these parcels, with a view to reducing their customs duty.

Appearing as a witness, Mr. Y. Oppenheim, head of the Sorting Department, told the Court that 80 per cent of the parcels received from abroad were checked regularly. Only parcels destined for diplomats and recognized, trustworthy institutions are free of examination. The next hearing will be held on April 29.

NEW TEACHERS' STRIKES IN 2 TOWNS, 2 VILLAGES

TEL AVIV, Monday.—Teachers' strikes broke out this morning in Ramat Gan, Petah Tikva, Kfar Saba and Magdiel after non-payment of March salaries. It is the policy of the Teachers' Union to call a strike whenever salaries are late. In Petah Tikva, where salaries were paid today, studies will resume tomorrow, but in other localities the strike may last for another day.

Ulpan and evening school teachers throughout the country also went on strike today because of non-payment of March salaries. In Jerusalem 60 persons were affected.

It is believed that their salaries would be paid tomorrow. Other teachers received their cheques on Sunday, the date set by the Teachers' Union.

New Drilling Machines Pulverize Mountain

Jerusalem POST Bureau

HAIFA, Monday. — With subdued thunder and a tremor of the earth, 35,000 tons of rock crashed to the ground in a big blasting operation at the Jalameh quarry of the Nesher cement works at the foot of Mt. Carmel this afternoon.

One thousandth of a second after the button was pressed, four and a half tons of gelignite and dynamite sheared a wall of rock off the mountain-side nearly 100 metres long, several metres thick and 30 metres high. The wall heaved, disintegrated into fragments and sagged, supplying Nesher with a fortnight's supply of raw material.

The powerful effect of the explosives was achieved with the help of two new drilling machines brought from the U.S. ten months ago. Eleven holes were bored into the live rock, each over six inches wide and 30 metres deep, reaching from the top of the quarry down to its floor.

The machine raises and drops a revolving chisel weighing nearly a ton which pounds a hole in the rock at the rate of one metre an hour. This blasting of holes by fragmentation of the rock saves much manpower, explosives, and detonators, and speeds up the supply of limestone to keep up with the increased demand for this raw material by the Nesher Works, whose production may reach 800,000 tons this year.

Publishers Defend High Price of Hebrew Books

Jerusalem POST Reporter

The price of Hebrew books had not risen as much as the price of production, affirmed two representatives of the 19 large printing firms at yesterday's public session in Jerusalem of the Government committee on Hebrew book production.

Mr. S. Shoshani said that wages in the printing trade were 19 times greater than in 1939; paper now cost 40 to 45 times as much per ton as it did then, whereas Hebrew books were, on an average, only ten times dearer. Greater efficiency, said Mr. Shoshani, had kept down wholesale prices, but printing costs were only 10 per cent of the retail price.

Typesetter's Output

Mr. B. Giladi agreed that low productivity, considering the poor quality of paper and lack of specialization among different firms, was not the cause of the cost of Hebrew literature. But Mr. Z. Assaf, secretary of the Printing Workers' Union, tried to prove that a typesetter's output in Israel was between European and American standards.

All speakers deplored the Government's view that book-production could not be given priority, nor sufficient loans made to allow modernization of presses and an increase of printing speed.

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Cultural Freedom For Soviet Jewry Urged

LONDON, Monday. — The Zionist Federation of Gt. Britain and Ireland resolved at its annual conference here last night to welcome the withdrawal of the charges against the Moscow doctors. It expressed the hope that diplomatic relations between Israel and Russia would be resumed in the near future and that the Soviet Union and other states in East Europe would now change their policy towards Jewish national aspirations and the Zionist movement.

The 900 delegates heard Dr. Shmuel Levenberg, of the Jewish Agency, urge the Jewish people and the Zionist movement not to "blind" themselves to developments in Germany.

"Practically all the criminals responsible for the tragedy of the Jewish people during the war and for the murder of six million Jews are at large," he said.

"Many hold official positions. Some may be in this country. They have not given up their struggle. It would be a great mistake for the Jewish people to ignore the dangers of neo-Nazism and neo-Fascism."

Professor Selig Brodetsky was returned unopposed as Honorary President of the Federation as were Mr. Barnett Janner, M.P., President and Mr. Janus Cohen, Chairman. *(INA, Reuter)*

SS Commander Trial For Massacre of Jews in Poland

BREMEN, Monday (UP). — A Bremen jury began trying today a former SS concentration camp leader in Poland charged with the murder of several thousand Jewish camp prisoners.

About 35 witnesses from the U.S., Australia, Israel and several European countries are scheduled to report about the wartime activities of Fritz Hildebrand, 49, who admitted he commanded the two Jewish concentration camps of Drohobycz and Boryslav, both in Poland, in 1943 and after. Hildebrand, however, denied that he played any role in the mass shootings of Jewish prisoners.

He was arrested on October 14, 1960, when one of the former camp inmates boarding an emigrant ship here suddenly spotted Hildebrand, in downtown Bremen, where he was working as a bricklayer.

Today's opening session of the trial was devoted only to reading of the indictment. The trial is expected to end in about three weeks.

SYRIA REPORTED FREE OF LOCUSTS

DAMASCUS, Monday (Reuter). ... Syria is absolutely free of locusts and could resist any future threat, the Agriculture Minister said here today. The Minister is having talks here with the Jordan Minister of Agriculture, Ahmed Tarawneh, to discuss a joint effort for combatting locusts.

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MYERSON

(Continued from Page 1)

U.N. Charter, on which the Polish delegation relied in placing the item on the agenda, established a direct connection between the preservation of international peace and the respect of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

The Israel delegate said that in recent weeks there appeared a ray of hope on the international scene, and if recent assurances of a desire for genuine cooperation are carried out there may be many opportunities to proceed slowly but confidently toward an improved international situation.

She said that the U.N. significant achievement in resisting aggression in Korea possibly marked a new era in which the processes and restraints of law would determine relations between sovereign governments. But this promise of a new era might be frustrated, she added, if the U.N. could find no way of bringing its enforcement action to an end when its purpose has been honourably and effectively achieved.

The statement of Premier Chou En-lai of the Chinese People's Republic on March 30, she stated, seemed to promise a solution to the crucial war prisoners question in conformity with U.N. objectives and principles. She said the agreement now reached on the exchange of sick and wounded prisoners has justified both the attitude of the General Assembly and the efforts of those who have persistently searched for conciliation within the framework of U.N. objectives.

Last Obstacle

"Israel's delegation earnestly hopes that the Panmunjom negotiations will result in a solution of the prisoners question in all its aspects and thereby remove the last obstacle which the negotiators encountered in their patient search for an honest agreement," she said. However, Mrs. Myerson added that "this prospect would not be advanced by premature discussion of political and military issues affecting Korea around this table."

While a Korean armistice would not itself solve the entire question of peace in the Far East, she said, it might lead to greater confidence and trust which would make such an overall settlement possible. The consequent prestige and authority redounding to the U.N. would be of inestimable value in the negotiated settlement of other issues affecting world peace.

"The menace of a world war is a deadly threat to all states," Mrs. Myerson said, "and especially to small states; to us history proved with constant reiteration that the freedom and security of many Jewish communities, with whose fate we are ardently concerned, are in grave peril whenever hatreds and the ravages of war are unleashed upon the world."

In conclusion she urged trust and confidence in the solution of international issues "so that free from fear of each other" men may concentrate "all their efforts in fighting poverty, ignorance and disease."

PUB.—The licensing authority at Great Missenden, Bucks, changed the name of "The Prince Charles," a public house, after being told that the Queen does not like pubs to be named after her children. The pub will now be called "The Valiant Trooper."

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Arrests in Soviet Spy Ring Now 39

KARLSRUHE, Monday (Reuter). — West German police have arrested two more members of the alleged Soviet-run spy ring uncovered in West Germany three days ago, the Supreme Federal Prosecutor announced today.

The two were Walter Senald of Hofheim and Frau Martha Thiem of Hamburg. No further details were given.

Arrests in the case now total 39 but one of the arrested, Hans Hartig of Frankfurt, committed suicide in Essen prison on Friday night. They were rounded up in widely separated localities all over Germany. All the arrested are expected to be taken eventually from local prisons to Karlsruhe, seat of the Supreme Federal Court.

Police were today searching for four more people said to be connected with the alleged ring which Vice-Chancellor Franz Bluecher described on Friday as the largest Soviet spy organization to be uncovered since the war.

EAST-WEST EUROPE TRADE TALKS OPEN

GENEVA, Monday (Reuter). — Delegates from some 20 European countries, including the Soviet Union and Britain, began secret talks here today on the expansion of trade between East and West Europe. An American delegation is also attending.

The talks, expected to last about a week or ten days, are being held under the auspices of the U.N. Economic Commission for Europe.

AL AHRAM. — Premier Nagib inaugurated one of the world's biggest and most modern printing presses, that belonging to the Cairo daily "Al Ahram," on Saturday night.

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Cables in Brief

ALLIANCE. — King Faisal is now visiting Kuwait, accompanied by the Regent Emir Abdel Ilah, to arrange his marriage to the Sheikh of Kuwait's daughter. The engagement will be announced on May 1, when the boy king is crowned. After this, a union of Iraq with Kuwait will be formalised.

BON MOT. — Retiring U.N. Secretary-General Trygve Lie drew chuckles and one of the longest rounds of applause given at a U.N. session when he concluded a speech last week with these words: "If I made mistakes, I hope you will forgive me. I will certainly forgive you."

GRECO-ARABIA. — Greece has announced its intention of establishing diplomatic and trade relations with Saudi Arabia. Emir Faisal, son of Ibn Saud, talked with the Greek Foreign Minister in Athens yesterday on his way home from the U.S.

EDEN. — British Foreign Secretary Anthony Eden was reported yesterday to be making satisfactory progress after Sunday's gall bladder operation.

UNFIT. — The American State Department has reported that 425 department employees have been dismissed since 1947 for "homosexual proclivities."

BOYD ORR. — Lord Orr, former Director General of the U.N. Food and Agriculture Organization, arrived in Karachi on Sunday to become chairman of the Pakistan "Grow More Food" emergency committee.

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AN ANNOUNCEMENT TO THE TRAVELLING PUBLIC
Beginning today, April 14, the fares on all Dan bus lines will be raised, as approved by the Ministry of Communications.
Details of the new fares will be published on each line.
Booklets of 11 trips will be on sale for the price of 10 trips.
Booklets of 83 trips will be on sale for the price of 20 trips.
The booklets are on sale at bus stations where there are special ticket sellers and at kiosks where season tickets are sold.
A list of present and additional places will be published shortly.

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WHEN the British forces left Israel on May 14 five years ago the joy of independence mingled in the people's hearts with bitterness and regret. So much had happened which seemed unforgivable, and unforgettable; so many lives had been uselessly sacrificed to a policy which had been narrowly applied in negation of elementary international right. Yet even at that time there were those who believed that the face Britain showed in the last years of the Mandate was a temporary manifestation and that the true soul of a great nation had to be sought in other associations of England and Israel.

THE WINGATE VILLAGE

That this was true was demonstrated in the life of General Orde Wingate who only a few years before had fallen in the Burma jungle. Here was a man in whom the flame of pure faith burned with an unquenchable fire, nourished as it was by the teachings of the Bible in which he read deeply and mediated profoundly, and expressed as it was, in a love of the Jewish people which few have equalled and few have expressed in so much self-sacrifice and complete devotion. And yet the love that Orde Wingate bore for Israel was built upon a greater love; a passion for justice that was prophetic in its intensity. In this perhaps lay his greatest contribution. It betokened the rightness of Israel's position, for Wingate would never, for a moment, have supported a cause which he felt was morally weak.

That General Wingate more truly embodied the England of tradition has since been proven by the rapidity with which old scars have been allowed to heal. Today a new link is to be forged between Israel and Britain in the dedication, on the slopes of Mount Carmel, of a children's village. This settlement has been endowed by the British Committees of Youth Aliyah.

Yemin Orde, as it is called, will take in one hundred children who will be brought to Israel as wards of Youth Aliyah. They will form the latest recruits to that big army of underprivileged boys and girls who have been saved from the hell camps of Europe, from the slums of North Africa and from all lands and all places where Jewish children had been denied their heritage of an untroubled and happy childhood. They will be prepared for citizenship in a land of their own after being doubly orphaned; having been bereft alike of parents and a motherland which concerned itself with their fate.

It is also significant that Yemin Orde is to be under the protection of the nearby settlement of Nir Etzion. This is a Hapoel Hamizrachi kibbutz which was set up by the survivors of the heroic Etzion bloc; the group of settlements near Jerusalem which was wiped out by Arab invaders after a defence which wrote one of the proudest chapters of modern Jewish heroism.

This association, too, will recall to the children and those who visit the Wingate Village, the unique contribution which Orde Wingate made to the Yishuv when, in the years immediately before the war, he trained a generation of Jewish youth not only in war but also in the greater teaching of the moral forces which make for ultimate victory.

Yemin Orde is the third of a series of villages established by Diaspora communities in Israel under the aegis of Youth Aliyah. There can be no finer affirmation than this of the fact that the future of world Jewry is in Israel. To invest in any fashion in a new country's future is always good policy. To invest in the living stuff of tomorrow, a nation's children, is to build the destiny of a whole people everywhere on foundation which not even Time can destroy.

When the British Committees of Youth Aliyah decided to build Yemin Orde in the name of General Wingate they also wanted to honour the devoted labours of his widow, Lorna Wingate, who for years has stood at the helm of Youth Aliyah in Great Britain. Her part in her husband's work and her steadfastness in the cause of Zion in the darkest days of Bevinism gave the Yishuv a moral uplift in its sore struggle. Lorna Wingate will be a deservedly proud woman when she stands on the ground of Yemin Orde at today's ceremony and learns that Israel never will forget the name she bears so gallantly.

U.N. EXPERT ON PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT HERE

Mr. Eric Johnston of the U.S. International Advisory Board (centre) was entertained at the King David Hotel on Sunday evening by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Levi Eshkol, and the Minister of Commerce and Industry Mr. Pinchas Sternstein, who are seen sitting on either side of Mr. Johnston. Next to Mr. Eshkol is the T.C.A. Administrator, Mr. Bruce McDaniel and opposite them are Mr. Jacob Bach of the Finance Ministry and Mr. Harold J. Goldenberg, head of the Investment Centre. Photo by Hishbain

New Approach to Foreign Currency Problem

Pitfalls of de-Control

By a Special Correspondent

THE present discussions of control of foreign exchange in Israel recall Disraeli's saying that the question of currency has made even more people mad than love. The discussions are obviously beset by prejudicial approaches, and they thus miss the essential point from the outset. Some of those who have embarked upon a crusade against controls, smell bolshevism in everything which starts with the word "control". Others, in defence, are anxious to prove that they too have learend thier lesson of Cobden. The resulting compromise is depressing, even when one disregards the administrative blunders which accompanied the Government's recent decisions in this field.

To put the problem into its right perspective it is necessary to remember that since World War I, and especially since the crisis of the 1930's, after the final breakdown of the gold standard as regulator of international trade, there is practically no country which did not, at least for some time, introduce control of foreign exchange as a means of stabilizing its balance of payments. Today such controls are operating in more than 50 countries all over the world, in various forms and degrees of stringency according to prevailing conditions. There is no denying then that control of foreign exchange has attained legitimate status as a principal instrument of economic policy, to be applied whenever indicated by a given set of circumstances, without ideological inhibitions or prejudices.

Necessary Restrictions

Many efforts have been made to dispense with controls impeding free international trade gradually. Without examining why these efforts were not crowned with spectacular success, it is of interest to note what the Directors of the International Monetary Fund thought of the position early in 1952, in their second report on exchange restrictions:

"It is the view of the Fund that, if countries have favourable balance of payments conditions... it is in their interest... to relax or remove restrictions unless such action could produce conditions justifying the intensification or reintroduction of those restrictions".

It should be clear, in the first place, that control of exchange is the rule and free convertibility the exception, found in a few economically stable countries, or in a few weak countries which offer themselves as a tax-free asylum for special kinds of financial transactions, with dubious and rather meagre benefits — in any case without organic connection with the country's own economy. In our own situation, we cannot afford to ignore elementary economic rules, and if control of foreign exchange must be accepted in principle, we shall find it easier to submit to its rule.

Partial Control?

It is true that only a few daring reformers have declared themselves in favour of complete abolition of foreign exchange control, whilst the others suggest only a partial free market for foreign currency. There is much to be said for the method of trial and error, provided one does not lean too much on the side of error, and provided also that one does not repeat the errors of others.

As it happens, partially free markets have been tried out more than once in various countries, mostly in Latin America, with doubtful success. Even under the favourable conditions of comparatively undeveloped and monolithic economies which should be less sensitive to experiments of this kind, they quickly led to depreciation of the currency and subsequently to reintroduction of control on the whole front.

Discussing a proposal for the institution of a partial, free auction market for foreign currency in one of the Latin American countries, a noted economist, Prof. G. Haberler, of the Federal Reserve Bank, says:

"...(The expectation is) that in most cases this system will be self-liquidating, the higher auction-rate falling back to the lower official rate... I think the opposite or some intermediate outcome is more likely, namely, that the official rate will have to be raised to the auction rate or the two be allowed to meet in the middle. If that is correct, the system would prove to be not a partial and temporary depreciation, but a first step towards general and permanent depreciation".

Those who advocate a partially free market for foreign currency in Israel argue that the free play of a competitive market will determine the real value of the Israel pound. Consequently confidence in our currency would be restored, with the result of an increased flow of foreign investments, increased tourist trade, higher exports, etc.

There is, however, hardly a term that is abused more lightheartedly in current discussions than the term "realistic" value of the Israel pound. If supply and demand are expected to determine this realistic value, then control of exchange should be abolished altogether. Then, and only then, the real value of the currency would reveal itself in the genuine operation of the rules of free competitive play — at the price, however, of a disruption of the national economy.

On the other hand, the proposed limited free market where restricted supply of foreign currency will meet with high pressure demand detremined by general scarcity, would only amount to a distortion of a genuinely free market. It would not create any stable rates at all, but only sporadic quotations with wide margins above and below an unrealistic high level, indicative only of the degree of scarcity in obtaining semi-essentials or non-essentials.

It would be fantastic to assume that a "free market" of this kind could restore confidence in our currency. Capital looks for stability. A prospective investor is not attracted by just a low rate of exchange, nor by chance quotations. The main problem of investors, namely the possibility of repatriating investment or profits, is not solved by a free market — which would, in fact, act as a further deterrent by the very nature of its instability.

"Non-Payment Imports"

Actually, we could have saved ourselves all the speculations regarding the merits and demerits of the proposed free market, since we have an object lesson before us in the form of our present system of "imports without payments", as complemented by the system of re-allocating to exporters part of the "added value". With the Government's tacit consent, holders of such import licences are competing freely for amounts of foreign currency offered by would-be investors, immigrants or other persons in need of local currency, — overbidding each other up to the limit determined by the prices obtainable locally for merchandise for which licences have been granted. Thus, before our own eyes, "realistic" rates are being fixed according to the prices obtainable for scarce parts, gold watches, or chocolate-coated ice-cream. It is almost commonplace to state that the system of "imports without payments" became one of the main irritants and deterrents for potential genuine capital investment, to the extent to which it adopted the features of a partially free market for foreign currency.

Oddly enough, it is the school of thought which acknowledges the heavy damage inflicted upon our economy by the system of "imports without payment", which advocates the establishment of a limited free market for foreign exchange. We must therefore ask ourselves whether it is intended to legalize the existing black market in foreign currency and to let it operate side by side with the official market, or whether we are faced with an approach devoid of a clear appraisal of the situation.

(A second article will attempt to indicate a line leading out of the present impasse.)

Dag Hammarskjold: Rise of an Internationalist

United Nations' New Secretary-General

THE United Nations bought a pig in a poke, but they may have made a lucky choice. Its new Secretary General Dag Hjalmar Agne Carl Hammarskjold (who recommends the pronunciation "Hammershield") has had a good deal of experience with international co-operation since the war. As Sweden's representative at the original Marshall Plan meetings, he was, with Sir Oliver Franks, one of the main architects of the Organization for European Economic Co-operation, and his constant attendance at O.E.E.C. meetings accounts for his being well known in Paris. He also attended many meetings of the Council of Europe, and occasionally, of the United Nations.

There is no doubt that he is an ardent internationalist, but equally certainly he is a neutralist in the special Swedish way. Unlike Switzerland, the other old-established European neutral, Sweden's history includes a long Imperial tradition. The Vikings colonized Europe from Scotland to Sicily, and in the 17th Century under Gustavus Adolphus and other Vasa Kings, Swedish troops were victorious in Finland, Russia and Germany. For the last 140 years Sweden has not taken part in any war, but she has usually maintained strong armed forces and regarded her neutrality as a bargaining counter in the power politics of nations, rather than as absolute doctrine to be guarded inviolate as the Swiss regard theirs.

Idea of Isolationism

It is true that, after a century of neutrality, the ideal of isolationism took a certain hold in Sweden. Its leading advocate was Hjalmar Hammarskjold. Dag's father, who as Prime Minister attempted to remain absolutely neutral in the first world war. But he and his Conservative Party were politically ruined by the consequent privations (he became known as Hungerskjold) and they failed to prevent Sweden entering the League of Nations.

In the second world war, Sweden was far from absolute in her neutrality; she gave aid to Finland against Russia, she later allowed German troops to cross her territory, but when the tide of war swung against Germany this privilege was restricted, and, by 1944, Norwegian resistance forces were allowed to organize on Swedish soil. Shortly after the war's end Sweden eagerly joined the United Nations; it was felt in Stockholm that the Vote effectively prevented any danger of Sweden having to choose between the Great Powers; also the international agencies of the United Nations offered the attractive possibility of carrying out Welfare State activities on an international scale. This strongly appealed to some of the ablest Swedes — such as Gunnar Myrdal and Count Folke Bernadotte — who devoted themselves to the United Nations cause.

Dag Hammarskjold was in the thick of this internationalist activity. In 1941, at the age of 36, he had become permanent head of the Treasury civil service and also Chairman of the Board of the State Bank. In the post-war era he vigorously maintained that the main objective of Swedish policy must be to hasten the economic recovery of Europe. His efforts in this direction, particularly through O.E.E.C., led him more and more into foreign affairs so that, quite logically, in 1949 he transferred to being civil service head of the Swedish Foreign Office.

Now came the testing moment for Swedish neutrality. The (economic basis of European cooperation with America through O.E.E.C. was changed onto a military basis through N.A.T.O. Sweden, in line with a policy partly guided by Hammarskjold, not merely refused to join a military alliance that included some of the Great Powers; it also tried to prevent Norway and Denmark joining by offering them instead a small-power mutual security pact composed of Scandinavian powers. The attempt failed, but Sweden has never joined N.A.T.O., and there can be no doubt that under its new Secretary-General the U.N. will never be allowed to become simply a reflection of the policies of the North Atlantic Pact.

Dag Hammarskjold

Sweden's Stand

And yet, though Sweden lives under the shadow of Russia, she has not proved subservient to Soviet policy. When war broke out in Korea, Sweden declared that the North Koreans were aggressors, but confined her contribution to the U.N. forces to field ambulances. A year later, when a Swedish plane was shot down over the Baltic Sea by Russian planes, Dag Hammarskjold was temporarily in charge of the Foreign Office. It fell to him to send three stinging and forthright notes to Russia. His bravery was exemplary; its effect was nil.

In dealing with the high politics of international wrangling, Hammarskjold may be expected to be correct and ingenious, though it is less likely that he will undertake the bold initiative that sometimes characterized Trygve Lie's period of office. His interests will lie more in the opportunities for playing a positive role through the specialized agencies which are the welfare departments of the United Nations.

Boosting Morale

His first task will be to restore morale in the Secretariat, some members of which have been under attack by American senators and newspapers for alleged contamination by subversive and Communist influences. Hammarskjold has given considerable thought to the relations of civil servants and governments, and he will certainly bring some order into the present hopeless confusion.

But the U.N. Secretariat suffers from a more profound complaint than disloyalty. They are civil servants of a world Government that does not exist. No Secretary-General can fill that gap, though Hammarskjold may at least be able to give the U.N. departments such as the Technical Assistance Board and the Trusteeship Committee a sense of precise purpose and of orderly procedure.

Youngest Son

Dag Hammarskjold is the youngest of the former Conservative Prime Minister's four sons, and has moved considerably away from his father's old-fashioned autocratic point of view, perhaps being influenced by his mother's enquiring intellect. He first intended a literary career, and became an admirer of such diverse writers as Joyce, Eliot, Proust and Rilke; he still usually carries a volume of poetry in his pocket to read in odd moments.

But as his reading widened his greatest hero came to be Albert Schweitzer, the scholar-missionary, whose precept, "Respect for Life," he has made his own. Under the influence of Schweitzer and Keynes, Hammarskjold became an ardent advocate of the Welfare State, and of the extension of social services to the whole population. For a time he taught this economic theory at Upsala University, but in 1936 he went to work as a civil servant, and under the guidance of the Social Democrat Minister of Finance, Ernst Wigforss, he put much of his theory into practice. He feels that all his life since then has been an extension and consolidation of this work.

Schweitzerian Thought

But Hammarskjold has never joined the Social-Democratic party which governs Sweden, because, as he has written, his Schweitzerian thinking makes him homeless amongst the parties; he respects tradition like a Conservative, demands social justice like a Socialist, and wishes to see the growth of a community above the national State like a good internationalist.

In spite of Russian insistence the United Nations Secretary-General must be something of a world leader, as well as a premier civil servant; there must be something more than brilliant intellect and scrupulous integrity; there must be some of that warm humanity with which on occasions Trygve Lie was able to appeal beyond the confines of the diplomat, the intellectual, or the bureaucrat, to the ordinary man. It is not yet clear that Dag Hammarskjold has this gift. He has great personal charm, his slim small figure and fair appearance of a shy boy. He can talk amusingly at parties, yet he is undoubtedly a solitary, not at all a gregarious man.

Like Schweitzer, he is self-sufficient and does not need the company or support of his fellow men; he is a bachelor and his favourite relaxation is the lonely sport of mountaineering or of exploring Arctic Lapland; his hobby is the silent art of photography. Communication with other people he finds difficult in spite of a wide command of languages. His speech and writing are often so extremely complicated and full of parentheses as to be almost unintelligible.

From the Observer.

Readers' Letters

DAMAGE RATE

To the Editor of The POST

Sir, — Referring to Mr. Jacobs' letter (April 8) concerning the manufacture of matches here, I should like to say that the low flashpoint is only one of many faults. For instance two or three days ago I purchased a full packet of matches, and on opening one box I found that at least 80 per cent of the matches did not possess a head. On striking one with a head, there was a crack like pistol and a flaming hissing projectile attached itself to the palm of my hand, literally burning a hole in it. Due to such incidents in the past I have ruined two shirts, one raincoat and two pairs of trousers. Does Mr. Jacobs realize the results of one of these flaming pieces of shrapnel attaching itself to the pupil of someone's eye?

Yours, etc.,
J. BRADLE

P.S. I suggest that the match manufacturers issue a sheet of armour plate for protection against the shrapnel, with every box of matches.

LACK OF LOCAL PRIDE

To the Editor of The POST

Sir, — Genuine music-lovers did not miss the Sigi Weissenberg recital last week and were highly rewarded by the enchanting playing of the young artist. But unfortunately the bulk of concert goers who enjoy music only if played by masters of world fame stayed home. As it happened the Edison Hall was far from sold out. Is this due to the amazingly selective taste of these people or can't they accept the idea that an artist whom they knew as a schoolboy has grown into a master of international standing?

Yours, etc.,
RAPHAEL ROMANN

Jerusalem, April 9.

INFERIOR FUEL

To the Editor of The POST

Sir, — It is clear that there must be a decided lack of Government control over the quality of kerosene.

During the past few months I have been shocked and angered by the appreciable quantities of waste that accumulate at the bottom of my kerosene tank. This layer of yellow sludge settles and covers the bottom of the tank that has been thoroughly cleaned before filling, the process taking about a week. A larger tank storing a two-months' supply forms a deep spongy layer by the time the bottom fifth is reached. Furthermore, my wick-fed heating stoves do not burn well after a time, and require emptying of fuel and thorough rinsing before refilling with clean kerosene. This "bilge" is capable of extinguishing a roaring flame in my hot-water geyser.

Have the specifications of the kerosene we are being sold dropped, or is this fuel adulterated by the time it is sold to us by the vendor? Such waste at our expense is scandalous and I, for one, should like to know what steps are to be taken to ensure that the consumer will get full value for his money.

Yours etc.,
S. S.

Jerusalem, March 20.

UNHAPPY OMISSION

To the Editor of The POST

Sir, — Miss Henriette Boas must be very innocent of the history of Dutch Jewry in Israel to suggest (your issue of March 30) that no one in Holland thought of immediate settlement in Palestine before the thirties.

But *The Jerusalem Post* is old enough to know the Dutch Zionists who came here to settle, before the first world war and soon afterwards.

Yours etc.,
FBB

Tel Aviv, March 31.

Editor's note: — An apology is due to the valued settlers from Holland who preceded the Kibbutz Galuyot.

WRONG ARTIST

To the Editor of The POST

Sir, — I thank Th.F.M. for the good review of the two heads I have not done. ("Interesting Sculpture," your issue April 7).

The sculptor Mordechai Gumpel and I are not the same person.

Yours, etc.,
DAVID H. GUMBEL

Jerusalem, April 7.

TODAY & TOMORROW

All women born between April 4, 1936 and September 27, 1935 and whose surnames start with the letter.

ט–ס

report for registration and medical examination according to the Defence Service Order (Call-up for Registration, Examinations and Regular Service) No. 2 1953, published in the daily press on March 15, 1953.

Ministry of Defence,
Manpower Department
Recruiting Office.

No.435

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Y.M.C.A.
JERUSALEM
On the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of its construction, the Y.M.C.A. Jerusalem has pleasure in announcing an
Exhibition of Paintings
by Mr. H. HOFFMAN and R. ENGEL
The exhibition will be open daily from April 15 — 29. Another exhibition of work executed by the pupils of the Ceramics Class of the YMCA will be open daily from April 15 — 18.
The public is cordially invited.

INDEPENDENCE DAY
1953
Night Display
of the Israel Defence Army on Independence Day (April 20)
at Ramat Gan Stadium, 9 p.m.
with SEARCHLIGHTS ● TORCHES and NIGHT LIGHTING
— ★ —
Parade of flags and banners of the Israel Defence Army
— ★ —
Crossing field obstacles under fire
— ★ —
Bayonet Combat
— ★ —
Close Combat of Paratroopers
— ★ —
Torch Display
— ★ —
Military Exercises with rifles, poles and flashlights
— ★ —
March Past
— ★ —
Fireworks Display
— ★ —
Israel Defence Army Band
— ★ —
At 8.30 p.m. the gates of the Stadium will be closed.
Transport to the Stadium:— Special buses will leave from 4 p.m. onwards from the following places:—
1) Rehov Mikveh Yisroel (cr. Allenby)
2) Rehov Shalom Aleichem (cr. Ben Yehuda)
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